

# **NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS: GRANT COMPETITION ANNOUNCED**

The Nebraska Department of Education is requesting proposals for the 2008-09 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers grant competition.

The goal of the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program is to establish or expand community learning centers that provide students with academic enrichment opportunities as well as activities that complement the students' regular academic programs.

About \$1 million is available to successful Nebraska applicants who offer services to eligible school buildings where at least 40 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced priced meals.

Two types of 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grants are available:

- First-Time Grants for applicants proposing to serve eligible school building populations that have never been served by a 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grant, and
- Continuation Grants for applicants who have successfully implemented 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs for five years and who propose continuing those programs to the same eligible school building populations.

Proposals for the grant competition must be postmarked no later than Feb. 2, 2009. The grant application, other information as well as eligibility requirements and funding priorities are available on the Nebraska Department of Education web site at:  
<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/21stcclc/>.

A grant writing workshop for First-Time 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Grants will be conducted Wed., Nov. 5, 10 a.m., at the Nebraska Department of Education, Sixth Floor, conference room 6-Y, in Lincoln. Interested individuals are encouraged to attend this workshop and to invite representatives of community-based organizations that may work collaboratively with them. For additional information, contact Jan Handa, grants manager for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program, at: [jan.handa@nebraska.gov](mailto:jan.handa@nebraska.gov) or at 402.471.0876.